

LANDMARKS

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NEW HPRB CHAIRPERSON ANNOUNCED

In June, Mayor Fenty appointed Catherine Buell to serve as the new Chair of the Historic Preservation Review Board. Ms. Buell has served as a citizen member on the HPRB since 2008, and replaces Tersh Boasberg, long instrumental in shaping preservation in the Nation's Capitol, who has served as Chair since 2000.

Ms. Buell, a graduate of Spelman College and Georgetown Law School, is an attorney with Patton Boggs LLC specializing in real estate and counseling private equity investors. Her legal background will help translate the Historic Landmark and Historic District Protection Act, the Municipal Regulations, and other guidance into Board decisions and actual construction projects.

Ms. Buell first became involved in historic preservation in Washington when she moved to the Anacostia Historic District, began restoring an historic house, and became active in the Historic Anacostia Block Association. She was instrumental in assisting the Historic Preservation Office launch and conduct outreach efforts for the Historic Homeowner Grant program in Anacostia, as well as help-



Photo Credit: HPO

ing sort through unforeseen tax issues that threatened to derail the program. At her first meeting as Chair in July, Ms. Buell announced that the Board will be forming subcommittees on Sustainability, Landmark Designation, and Public Outreach/Education to allow the members to focus on and assist the HPO on these issues. ♦

BARNEY CIRCLE UPDATE

The Barney Circle neighborhood in Southeast was one of the last areas of the original L'Enfant plan to develop in Washington DC. Roughly bordered by the houses facing Kentucky Avenue, Potomac Avenue, and Congressional Cemetery, and located along a streetcar line, the neighborhood began to see construction in the early 20th century, with almost all lots filled by the 1930s with homes for the middle class. The

most prevalent building type in Barney Circle is the wide, 3-bay rowhouse with front porch, commonly referred to as the daylighter. In recognition of its role in the architectural and historic development of the District of Columbia, a nomination for historic designation was prepared and submitted by ANC 6B to the Historic Preservation Office.

After several revisions and amendments since its submission, the nomination for Barney Circle was presented to the Historic

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Barney Circle Update from page 1

Preservation Review Board in June. Owners of properties within the proposed boundaries expressed a wide range of opinions about the proposal, and the Board requested that HPO continue a dialogue with the residents in an effort to address as many concerns as possible before returning to the Board for a decision. To give adequate time for this effort, an October hearing is now expected.

HPO is currently expanding on its draft design guidelines and working with the neighborhood to develop a preservation guide so that owners know how the preservation process works and what changes are considered compatible with the historic character of Barney Circle. Stay tuned to the fall edition of Landmarks for further updates. ❖



Photo Credit: HPO



Photo Credit: HPO

TWO NEW BOOKS ON WASHINGTON ARCHITECTURE

Twenty years after its initial publication, the captivating *Washington at Home* has been updated and re-released. This 500+ page coffee table book offers neighborhood-by-neighborhood descriptions and historic photographs of Washington from its inception to today. In this second edition, editor Kathryn Schneider Smith includes several new neighborhoods – Barry Farm, Columbia Heights, Congress

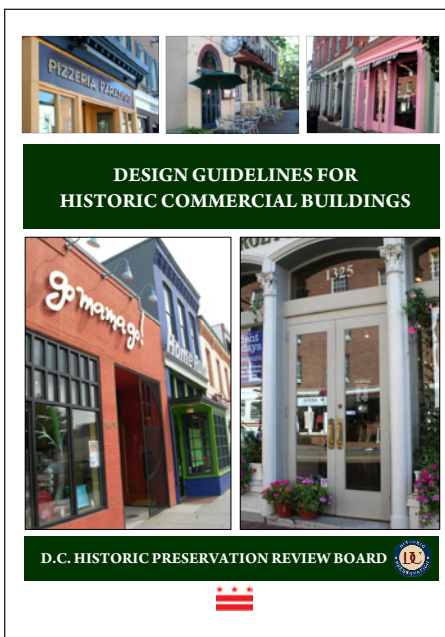
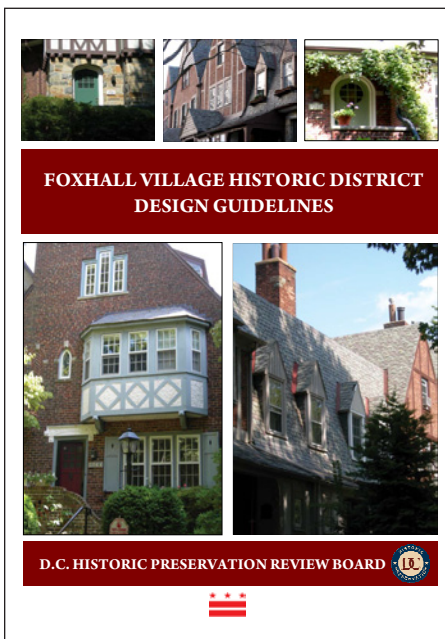
Heights, Spring Valley, Kenilworth, Randle Highlands, Fort Dupont, and Hillcrest, to name a few.

Housing Washington: Two Centuries of Residential Development and Planning in the National Capital Area was recently published in conjunction with the 2010 Vernacular Architecture Forum conference held in DC in May. Edited by Richard Longstreth, this 400-page book includes topics ranging from Urban Renewal in Southwest Washington, Sanitary Housing, Levittowns, Motor Hotels, and African American housing from slavery through the mid-20th century. ❖

NEW GUIDELINES RELEASED

At its May meeting, the Historic Preservation Review Board adopted two new publications to help guide decisions by historic property owners, the HPO staff, and members of the HPRB. The **Foxhall Village Design Guidelines** and the **Guidelines for Commercial Buildings** were both adopted after careful consideration and consultation with stakeholders.

These two publications are the first to appear in the new HPO guidelines format, complete with historic and current photos, building-specific guidance, and complete contact information. They are both available on the website at www.planning.dc.gov/hp under Design Guidelines. ❖



MITCHELL PARK MARKER UNVEILED

A historic marker, describing the Anthony Holmead Archaeological Site, was recently installed in Mitchell Park at 23rd and S Streets, NW. Archaeological investigations at the site have determined the original location and footprint of the c. 1795 Holmead house. The site was designated a DC landmark in 1986 and listed on the National Register in 1995. ❖

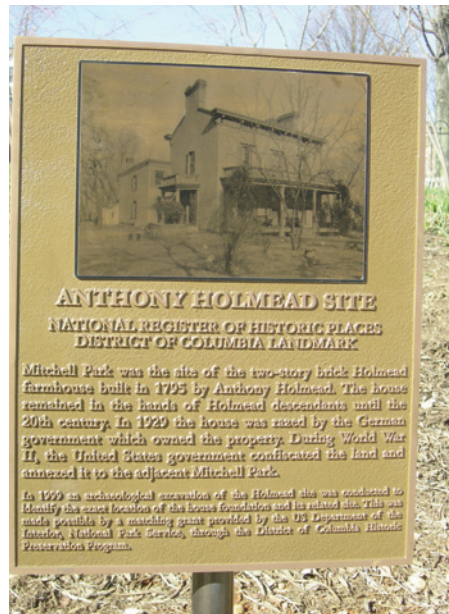


Photo Credit: HPO

SUMMER INTERNS HAVE ARRIVED

The Historic Preservation Office is fortunate to have the assistance of four summer interns this year. Christopher Chop, a Masters student at Virginia Tech and Margaret Prest, a Masters student at the University of Maryland, greatly assisted in planning activities for the upcoming *Preserving the Historic Road* conference. Chris is studying Urban Affairs and Planning and has a burgeoning interest in historic preservation. Margaret is pursuing a dual major in Historic Preservation and Urban Studies and Planning. Although their work for the summer has wrapped up at HPO, we wish them the best of luck!

Also joining HPO this summer are several students from the DC Summer Youth Employment Program. Richard Barksdale, a graduate from Booker T. Washington High School, has been busy organizing the HPO library, National Register files, and brochures collection. When asked what he thinks of the Historic Preservation Office, his immediate response was, "I love it here!" Richard will

leave HPO to join the Navy, where he plans to study Information Technology. *Non sibi sed patriae*, Richard!

Daniel McCowan studied IT at the University of the District of Columbia and refers to himself as the "PowerPoint Master." He also enjoys (and is quite good at) graphic animation and freehand drawing. Daniel is currently saving up for a backpacking trip across Europe and we wish him happy travels! ❖

LATEST DC LANDMARKS

In May, the HPRB designated the Morris Residence at 4001 Linnean Avenue, NW as a landmark, followed in July by the designation of the James C. Dent House at 156 Q Street, SW.

The **James C. Dent House** was built at 156 Q Street SW in 1906 as the home and parsonage of Reverend James Clinton Dent of Mount Moriah Baptist Church. The house remains as a symbol of not only the creation, but the rise of the black middle class after Emancipation, as well as serving as a rare remnant of the residential development of Southwest prior to Urban Renewal.

Dent and his wife Mary were born into slavery, but by 1883, they were able to purchase a large lot in Square 603 and subdivide it into three lots. They built a modest frame dwelling for themselves on one lot at 156 Q Street. Beginning in 1886, Dent served as pastor at Mount Moriah, which became active in charitable matters in the neighborhood, such as the Colored Social Settlement, the successor of which, Southwest Community House, later occupied Dent's house.

Dent commissioned architect William James Palmer to replace his frame house with the substantial Victorian brick dwelling that stands today as a rare surviving detached dwelling in the Southwest, and the last vestige of the Mount Moriah church in its old neighborhood.

The **Morris Residence**, now home of the
continued on page 4



Photo Credit: DC MAR

The James C. Dent House in Southwest is one of the few remaining freestanding dwellings in the quadrant.



Photo Credit: EHT Traceries

The Morris Residence stands at 4001 Linnean Avenue NW, adjacent to Rock Creek Park.

DC COMMUNITY HERITAGE GRANT AWARDEES

Eighteen(!) projects were selected for this year's Community Heritage Grants, issued by the Humanities Council, in concert with HPO. Grants are available to non-profit organizations up to \$2000 for history, heritage, or preservation projects. This year's recipients are listed below.

Historic Mount Pleasant, Inc.	History of the Mount Pleasant Commercial Corridor
Tifereth Israel Congregation	Freedom Riders Park, Statue and Memorial – Celebrating the 50th Anniversary of the Freedom Rides
Downtown Cluster of Congregations	Exhibit on the historic Franklin School
Community Resources Inc.	Oral history and videotape on the New School for Afro-American Thought
Education Plus 2	Oral Histories of Brightwood Veterans
Foundation Center for Neighborhood	The History of Carver Terrace, Langston Terrace, Improvement and the Trinidad Community
McMillan Park Committee	DC's Mystery Landmark: The Historic McMillan Sand Filtration Site – DVD/Walking Tour/Tour Booklet
Capitol View Civic Association	Exploring Capitol View brochure
Deanwood Heights Main Streets	The Second Annual Gospel Round Up and Historic Church Tour
Washington East Foundation	The Hillcrest Oral History Project – A Strong DC Neighborhood
Woodlawn Cemetery Perpetual Care Association	Woodlawn Cemetery Banner/Cemetery Brochure
Fairlawn Citizens Association	Fairlawn Community History Brochure
Anacostia Coordinating Council	Old Congress Heights – A History of a Far Southeast Community brochure
Pearl Coalition	Barry Farm: Past and Present – documentary
Historic Kappa House Restoration Foundation	Journey of Achievement – Historic Kappa Trail
National Hand Dance Association	The History of DC Hand Dance
Tinner Hill Heritage Foundation	The Birth and Legacy of Washington, DC Black Basketball Conference brochure
Words Beats & Life	The PA Tape: Go Go's Fusion of Funk and Hip-Hop -film of conference panels and workshops

Latest DC Landmarks from page 3

Embassy of the Democratic Republic of Congo, was designed and built in 1939 for Edgar and Beronica Morris by the architect team of Porter and Lockie. Edgar Morris served on the State Department's Citizens' Committee and thereafter became the unofficial Chief of Protocol for the District of Columbia. As such, the Morris family would host to a number of foreign dignitaries at their residence, a fact which is reflected in the design and layout.

Its elaborate edifice features elements of the Jacobethan style, which derives its name and design elements from English Renaissance, late Medieval, Tudor/Elizabethan and Jacobean buildings. The solid brick Morris residence fits the description with its finely carved limestone entrances, battlements, high-pitched roofs, massive decorative chimneys, projecting bays, and arcaded porch. ❖

SAVE THE DATE!

Preserving the Historic Road Conference

September 9-12

Washington Marriott

Paper sessions, bus tours, and other events

www.historicroads.org

Citywide Historic Preservation Conference

September 24-25

American Institute of Architects

Sponsored by DC Preservation League and HPO

www.dcpreservation.org or 202-783-5144

Annual Historic Preservation Awards

November 4

Carnegie Institution for Science

Our city's annual awards returns to the beautiful Carnegie Institution

www.planning.dc.gov/hpo or 202-442-8835

